

## Stop-loss affects officer, enlisted

Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker  
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and reserve affairs has authorized the use of Stop-Loss to retain specific skills needed to meet national security objectives. Effective May 2, 43 officer and 56 enlisted specialties will be affected by Stop-Loss.

“We do not take this action lightly,” said Secretary of the Air Force Dr. James G. Roche. “Stop-Loss is designed to preserve critical skills essential to supporting the global war on terrorism, while ensuring we’re prepared to meet other contingencies.”

“We’ve implemented Stop-Loss to ensure we have the necessary skilled personnel to conduct operations,” said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper. “We’ll use it only as long as necessary to accomplish our mission.”

Stop-Loss is being implemented across the active duty, Air Force Ready Reserve and Air National Guard for the affected career fields in the ranks of airman through colonel, according to Maj. Teresa L. Forest, chief of Air Force retirements and separation policy at the Pentagon.

Both the secretary and chief of staff are acutely aware that the Air Force is an all-volunteer force and that this action, while essential to meeting the service’s worldwide obligations, is inconsistent with the fundamental principles of voluntary service.

“We take Stop-Loss seriously and are working hard to ensure the lives of our airmen, their families and their civilian employers are not disrupted any longer than is necessary to meet our national commitments,” General Jumper said.

Therefore, a waiver process will be implemented for those people with unique circumstances.

“We are doing our best to minimize this disruption,” Mr. Roche said. “And we will look at unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis and do all we can to offer appropriate relief.”

“We understand the individual sacrifices that our airmen and their families will be making,” General Jumper said. “We appreciate their unwavering support and dedication to our nation.”

For more information about Stop-Loss, people can contact their local military personnel flight or the Air Force Personnel Center’s Stop-Loss Control Center at (210) 565-2374 or DSN 665-2374.



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett

Airman 1st Class William Roberts, Master Sgt. Michael Nelson, 2nd. Lt. Steven Koester, 14th Comptroller Flight, celebrate their rating during the outbrief Tuesday.

## 14th FTW earns ‘Excellent’ rating

Airman Alexis Lloyd  
Public affairs

Columbus AFB received an overall Excellent rating from the Headquarters Air Education and Training Command Operational Readiness Inspection team Tuesday.

The ORI evaluated the wing’s performance of its contingency operations and compliance to standards.

The evaluations were then graded using a five-tier rating scale to assess units either as Outstanding, Excellent, Satisfactory, Marginal or Unsatisfactory.

The crowd’s air horns, sirens, bells and cheers drowned the briefers’ voices at times during the outbrief.

More than 500 people crowded the base theater to hear the breakdown of each section’s performance during the inspection.

Col. Michael Billings, 19th Air Force vice commander, attended the outbrief and added his congratulations for the overall Excellent rating Columbus AFB received.

“On behalf of [Maj. Gen. James Sandstrom], I commend you and congratulate you,” Colonel Billings said. “Thank you for your dedication everyday to the Air Force, Department of Defense and United States.”

Following Colonel Billings’ words, Col. Steve Schmidt, 14th Flying Training Wing commander, stood before his team and congratulated them as well.

“The ORI was nine days and tough,” Colonel Schmidt said. “The IG is just a snapshot of what we do here.

“Everybody gave 110 percent, and I’m proud of this achievement.”

To reward the 14th FTW, Colonel Schmidt has scheduled a BLAZE day April 21.

“From the bottom of my heart - thank you,” Colonel Schmidt said. “Congratulations to a war fighting team who got a high excellent.”

*(Editor’s note: The wing picnic begins at 12:30 p.m. today.*

*Civilian attire is appropriate for military. For those who still have to keep the mission going during the day, the party will carry on after Class 03-07 assignment night at 5 p.m. today at the Columbus Club.)*

## Fourth Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force dies

WASHINGTON — Former Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Thomas Barnes died from cancer in Sherman, Texas, on March 17. He was 72.

Mr. Barnes was the fourth CMSAF and the first black selected to the highest enlisted post in any of the military services. He served in that position from 1973 to 1977.

Mr. Barnes was born in Chester, Pa., in 1930 and entered the Air Force in 1949. He attended aircraft engine and hydraulics specialist school at the Chanute Technical Training Center, Chanute Air Force Base, Ill. He served as a hydraulics specialist from 1950 to 1952 at McCord AFB, Wash.

He supported the Korean War while serving at Ashiya and Tachikawa, Japan.

Shortly after arriving in Japan, he completed on-the-job training as a flight engineer, and because of low manning, performed as both a flight engineer and hydraulics specialist.

From 1952 to 1965, the chief served in a variety of positions as a crew chief, flight engineer, and senior controller on various aircraft including the B-25 Mitchell bomber, T-11, C-45, C-47 Skytrain and B-52 Stratofortress.

In October 1966, Mr. Barnes entered F-4 Phantom field training and in December

1966 went to Southeast Asia, where he served with the 8th Tactical Fighter Wing until December 1967.

From there he went to Laughlin AFB, Texas, where in 1969 he was promoted to chief master sergeant.

In 1971, he was selected as the Air Training Command senior enlisted adviser, and in 1973, as the chief master sergeant of the Air Force.

During his tenure as CMSAF, the chief worked for equal opportunities for minorities, including blacks and women, and also worked to solidify the enlisted professional military education system.

After retirement, Mr. Barnes remained active in Air Force life and was a sought-after speaker at military functions.

He competed in the rodeo sport of team roping and lived in Bonham, Texas, on a sprawling ranch he shared with his wife, Marie.

In an interview, Mr. Barnes was once asked how he would like to be remembered.

“I’d like to be remembered as a role model for people who believe they can’t get there,” he said. “It was an honor to have been chosen (as the CMSAF) on the basis of my qualifications, as opposed to my race or my gender.” *(Information for this article was taken from an interview by Master Sgt. Trish Freeland.)*



Master Sgt. Greg Holmes

Former Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Thomas Barnes (right) talks with Chief Master Sgt. Bill Milligan, then Air Education and Training Command’s command chief master sergeant, during a conference at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, in February 2001.

## One sergeant chosen from Columbus AFB to add on stripe

One master sergeant from Columbus AFB received news of putting on an extra stripe Wednesday.

Master Sgt. John Blake, 14th Operations Support Squadron, was one of 1,612 master sergeants picked for promotion this year were selected using the chronic critical skills program for the first time.

“I’m really honored and proud to be selected from a field of very competitive and deserving master sergeants, many of whom I work with here at Columbus,” Sergeant Blake said. “I think that hard work, dedication and being given the opportunity to succeed helped me to achieve this milestone. Thanks to all who helped to make it possible.”

The program applies higher selection rates to certain career fields. This year is the first it is being applied to the E-8 and E-9 promotion cycles.

Under the program, officials identified 25 career fields to be classified as “critical” skills for the E-8 promotion cycle. The overall selection rate for this cycle, 10.18 percent, is the highest since 1987. The move pushed average selection percentages, depending on the multiplier applied, up to 30.88 percent.

“We’re now including E-8s and E-9s because of critical senior noncommissioned officer shortages in these (Air Force specialties) that are seriously impacting mission readiness,”

said Chief Master Sgt. Carol Dockery, chief of enlisted promotions and evaluation at the Pentagon.

The effort to expand the chronic critical skills program to the two highest enlisted ranks began during the central evaluation board and final approval came only days ago, said officials.



To get there, those competing for promotion in designated Air Force specialty codes are assigned a higher selection rate, 1.2 times the Air Force average, Chief Dockery said.

For example, an AFSC with a 15 percent selection rate would receive an 18 percent promotion rate when placed on the critical skills list.

“Now, more than ever, it’s absolutely essential that we balance our enlisted force structure to meet our expeditionary force requirements,” said Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Gerald R. Murray. “We must continue to use the (chronic critical skills) program and all other available

tools, such as selective re-enlistment bonuses, incentive pays and retraining, if we are to achieve balance in our force.”

Senior NCOs in Air Force specialties manned at or below 70 percent with less than 25 people eligible for promotion received a multiplier of 3.0; those manned at or below 70 percent with more than 25 people eligible for promotion received a multiplier of 1.4; and those manned above 70 per-

cent but less than 90 percent received a multiplier of 1.2.

Future chronic critical skills will be announced before the central evaluation board for each promotion cycle.

The senior master sergeant evaluation board met Jan. 22 to Feb. 7.

The average total score of selectees during the cycle was 669.10 points. Average selectee score breakdowns are:

- ❑ 36 points, time in grade
- ❑ 21.01 points, time in service
- ❑ 135 points, performance reports
- ❑ 20.08 points for decorations
- ❑ 68.83 points for U.S. Air Force Supervisory Examination

❑ 388.17 points for evaluation board score  
The average selectee has 5.04 years time in grade and 19.99 years time in service.

Those selected for promotion to senior master sergeant automatically receive a school quota for the Senior NCO Academy. And 357 of those not selected are scheduled to attend with a list of 720 alternates, officials said. Senior master sergeant selectees will be promoted beginning in April. The complete list of promotion and Senior NCO Academy selections will be posted on the Air Force Personnel Center Web site by March 22 at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/eprom>. *(Information compiled by Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker, Air Force Print News, and Staff Sgt. Matt Miller, AFPC Public Affairs)*



# NEWS BRIEFS

## Heart Link

The deadline to sign up for the next Heart Link meeting is today. The meeting begins at 8 a.m. Monday at the chapel. The program helps spouses of military people who have less than five years in the military. The purpose is to help teach spouses how to adapt to the military life. For more information on the meeting or to sign-up, call the family support center at Ext. 2790.

## Uniforms

The Air Education and Training Command’s policy of uniform wear on commercial air carriers for TDY travel is suspended until further notice. The uniform of the day is also the battle dress uniform or flight suits. The standard for distinguished visitor visits, ceremonies (including graduations) and protocol still applies.

## Correction

The headline on the March 14 issue did not reflect the correct amount the story included. The headline was “AF cuts cost CAFB 16 jobs.” It should have read 24 instead of 16.

# Official discusses base realignment, closure with Congress

**Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez**  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** — In congressional testimony Tuesday, the assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations, environment and logistics discussed the service’s successes and roadblocks in dealing with the base realignment and closure process. Nelson Gibbs told the Senate Appropriations Committee subcommittee on military construction that the Air Force is proud of its record working on the BRAC process. “There have been 22 closures and 19 realignments,” Mr. Gibbs said. “Over 87,000 acres will eventually be transferred back to local communities. Over

# Air Force leader attends wingman funeral

**Pam Warnken**  
Public affairs

The Air Force vice chief of staff flew to Columbus to attend a wingman funeral March 14. Gen. Robert Foglesong met Birney Imes Jr. when the general was in command of the 14th Flying Training Wing in 1993. General Foglesong established a group of civic leaders called Wingmen and named Mr. Imes as a charter member. “Wingman” recognizes Columbus citizens who’ve made contributions to the Air Force. The term “wingman” refers to a pilot who flies aircraft in formation a few feet from other aircraft. Mr. Imes shared the wingman honor with three others — the late Ralph “Chicken” Webb, Charles Youngblood and Happy Irby. Today, Columbus Air Force Base has 12, with each new wing commander adding to the group. “The relationship between the wingmen and the base leadership was extraordinary, both then and now,” General Foglesong said. “[Mr. Imes] protected us, advised us and supported us.” Mr. Imes’ father, Birney Imes Sr., was on the community committee formed at the onset of World War II to bring a pilot



Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez  
**Gen. Robert Foglesong, Air Force vice chief of staff, testifies before a senate subcommittee March 13 regarding the effects of environmental encroachment on Air Force readiness.**

training base to Columbus. The base was built in 1941 and has had a pilot training mission for over half a century. “The Imes family has a long tradition of being there for Columbus AFB and for our men and women in uniform,” General Foglesong said. “When I received the news of Birney’s passing, I had to be here for the services. Some things are just that important.”

60 percent of those acres have already been transferred and another 30 percent of them are currently in long-term lease.” Mr. Gibbs’ testimony, and the testimony of other service assistant secretaries, was given as the Department of Defense moves toward a fifth round of BRAC. “We believe past BRAC practices have been a success, and we believe that we are prepared to move forward with the 2005 round for the disposal of properties in a very expeditious manner,” Mr. Gibbs said. However, he said, the process used to transfer land out of the Air Force’s possession has made the transfer slow. The process requires the Air Force to first check with other military depart-

ments to see if they need the land and, after that, to check with other federal agencies. “In the case of transference, one of the largest delays ... has been in dealing with other federal agencies,” Mr. Gibbs said. “Then, moving on to the local agencies, the things that have caused us the greatest difficulty are cases where the local community has been unable to come to a conclusion relatively quickly as to what they want done with the properties. “In this business, the longer it takes, the more difficult it becomes as positions become entrenched,” he said. Mr. Gibbs also discussed the Air Force ideology and methodology for cleaning up any environmental pollution before

property is transferred out of the service’s control. “We have entered into an agreement in Colorado where, effectively, the cleanup is being undertaken by a private contractor,” Mr. Gibbs said. “This is a methodology that has turned out to be very effective there, and I think we will find it to be used more and more.” The Air Force is using performance-based contracting when it comes to the cleanups, Mr. Gibbs said. In such a process, everybody involved agrees on what the outcome of a cleanup should look like, as opposed to how it should actually be done.

# Self aid, neighbor care: Help people next door

**Tech. Sgt. Jim Moser**  
Public affairs



My wife and I have a running joke about TDYs and deployments. I never go anywhere until I’m finished putting down fertilizer on the lawn. You see, as soon as the empty bag of turf builder hits the trash, orders come down leaving her to reap the bennies of a lush, green and rapidly growing yard. Not that she doesn’t like grass — but inevitably the mower will fail to live up to its end of the bargain and leaves her with a jungle to greet the housing inspectors. There is nothing more unnerving than being deployed, knowing something is wrong at home, like illness, stress or simply a rebellious lawn mower, and be completely helpless to do anything about it. Thankfully throughout my career, my family has been blessed with neighbors who’ve stepped up and helped out.

Every deployment line I’ve had the pleasure of walking, the chaplains made a great point about Spiritual Self Aid and Buddy Care. It boils down to taking care of yourself and others. The same point can be made for “neighbor care.” Being a good neighbor entails more than just waving to the people who live next-door from across the yard. Do you know who your neighbors are? Or are they just little Johnny or Amy’s parents. Where was their last assignment? Or are they new to military life? Do they know whom to call if they need help? Do you? One of the best things about living on base, besides the lawn inspections, is the fact everyone is in the same business. We might work in different parts of the company, but we’re all serving our country. We have all moved in the middle of a school semester or will sometime in the rounds. Any problems or questions you have I’d be willing to bet someone on your block has had the same question in the past. Ask them. Also, don’t forget about the family support center. They are there to help. Call Master Sgt. Mable

Brackens or Tech. Sgt. Jamey Coleman at Ext. 2790. Family Assistance is their part of the Air Force pie. One other point I would like to make about “neighbor care,” is don’t just automatically think, “Well they belong to this squadron or that one, someone from their unit will come by and help them out.” Everyone is busy. Most shops are undermanned and it doesn’t look to get any better anytime soon. To add insult to injury — our regular jobs didn’t just up and disappear because of the ongoing unpleasantness if any thing we will be busier than ever. So don’t just assume someone else is going to be looking out for them. Take the time and ask them how they are doing. Get to know the people who live around you. I don’t mean be nosy — but care about them. They’re your extended family. It is a simple fact not all of us will get deployed. So stand up and help the families of the ones that do. Our deployed folks have enough to worry about. Let’s help them keep their heads in the game by keeping their lawn trimmed at home and practicing a little “neighbor care.”

# It’s your club once you join it

**By Brig. Gen. Arthur Rooney Jr.**  
82nd Training Wing commander

**SHEPPARD AFB, Texas** — I’ve been a club member my entire military career. No matter where I’ve lived — Charleston, Ramstein, Sheppard or any of the other bases serving as the temporary Rooney family home — I’ve always had a club. In fact, it’s been more than “a” club; it’s been “my” club. You see, as a member I can claim ownership in the club. By paying dues, I’m investing in my club. I’m making it possible for my club to offer dining opportunities, special programs and a pleasant atmosphere for military and civilian members to socialize and celebrate. It’s no secret membership sustains a club. The larger the membership, the more opportunities for

the club to offer unique and fun programs and the more often the doors can be open for service. Of course, there are some who don’t see the value of the doors being open. After all, there are plenty of restaurants outside the gates. That’s true; there are many restaurants. However, what we have inside the gates of our bases are clubs. You get more than just a meal. You get camaraderie, convenience, tradition and the ability to influence how clubs serve you. Our club team listens to members. It is, in large part, how they chart a course for the future. After all, their main purpose is to serve the membership. As part of their continuing commitment to members, the club team is experimenting with a variety of new programs. So, make it “your” club instead of just a building you sometimes enter. Invest in your club. Enjoy your club.

## STRAIGHT TALK LINE

*The Straight Talk Line is your direct line to the commander for comments and suggestions on how to make Columbus AFB better. Although the Straight Talk Line is always available, the best way to resolve problems is through the chain of command. The Straight Talk Line phone number is 434-7058. Callers should leave their full name and phone number to receive an answer. All names are kept confidential. Messages are answered in the Silver Wings without names.*

*Written questions may also be brought to the public affairs office in the wing headquarters building, Bldg. 724. People can also access the Straight Talk program through the Blazeweb at <https://columbusweb> and the main website at [www.columbus.af.mil](http://www.columbus.af.mil). Questions and answers will be edited for brevity.*



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**Silver Wings Editorial Staff**  
**14th FTW commander**  
Col. Steve Schmidt  
**Chief, public affairs**  
Pam Warnken  
**Editor**  
Airman Alexis Lloyd

## Key phone numbers

Base Exchange.....	434-6013
Chaplain.....	434-2500
Civil Engineer Service Desk.....	434-2856
Civilian Personnel.....	434-2635
Clinic:	
Family Practice.....	434-2172
Appointment Desk.....	434-2273
After Hours Care.....	434-2273
Columbus Club.....	434-2489
Commissary.....	434-7106
Finance.....	434-2706
Housing Maintenance.....	434-7370
Inspector General.....	434-2927
Legal Office.....	434-7030
Military Equal Opportunity.....	434-2591
Security Forces.....	434-7129
Shoppette.....	434-6026

✓

Keep the Torch Burning — Vote! Contact your local voting representative or Maj. Paul Powell, installation voting representative, at Ext. 7690.

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# CAFB women get down, dirty on car maintenance

**Airman Alexis Lloyd**  
Public affairs

Lug nuts and lipstick, batteries and blush — These elements came together to learn how to give a car a makeover. A group of Columbus AFB women gathered at the auto hobby shop Tuesday for a preventative maintenance course in honor of Women’s History Month. While most women would just take their car to the dealer or a quick lube, these women wanted the down and dirty on basic car maintenance. “I was sick of taking my car to places and getting ripped off,” said Margaret Evans, 14th Comptroller Flight. “I wanted to know a little more about car care.” Their teachers for the class were Michael Coats and Robert Johnson, automotive mechanics.



Sergeant Garrett tightens lug nuts.

“I see women come in here all the time, and with some of their husbands deployed, they don’t really know anything about their cars,” Mr. Coats said. “That’s why we are teaching this class to give them a beginning.” The first task of the class was the safety briefing. “Safety is very important in this shop — if people don’t follow the rules, they won’t stay in here,” Mr. Johnson said. Some things for women to remember is to keep hair pulled away from face, no jewelry and no loose clothing. Then the group went on to learn about oil changes. Once a participant’s car was on the lift, Mr. Coats showed the women the basics. He showed them how to check all their fluids, from the transmission to the windshield wiper fluid.

The next feat was tire rotation and the basics of changing a flat. Although the auto hobby shop carries an air gun to take the lug nuts off, what happens when the tire goes flat on a back road with no one around but themselves, a car jack and a donut? A little trick the group learned about was to use their feet and kick the lug nuts loose.



Photos by Airman Alexis Lloyd  
**Tech. Sgt. Patanya Garrett, 14th Medical Operations Squadron, Margaret Evans, 14th Comptroller Flight, and Chris Kennedy, 14th Services Division, learn to change oil.**

“I always had a hard time getting them loose with my hands,” said Chris Kennedy, 14th Services Division. “I never even thought about using my feet.” When the tires were off, Mr. Coats showed everyone how to check brakes for wear and tear. Two hours later and a little grease on their hands, the women had learned the basics of car care. The auto hobby shop

didn’t charge the women for the oil change or the tire rotation and balance. “It’s just our way to try to get more people to come in and learn about car maintenance,” Mr. Johnson said. *(Editor’s note: There is one more car class at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the auto hobby shop. For more information or to sign up, call Tech. Sgt. Patanya Garrett at Ext. 2285.)*

# Lieutenant proves he’s not ‘Weakest Link’ on game show

**2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett**  
Public affairs

A Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training student proved he was the toughest link and walked away from a nationally televise game show with \$4,250. Second Lt. Jason Childs, SUPT Class 04-05, came out the victor in the game show “The Weakest Link” Nov 21. Lieutenant Childs told about his embarrassing and nervous game-show moments. He started by filling out two 25-question surveys. “One [questionnaire] asked regular questions from the show to see if I could compete, but the other focused on personality,” he said. “The producers wanted to see if I could give the show an edge.” Different groups competed in mock competitions while being filmed. The producers tested the challengers to see how they reacted to the camera and interacted with each other. Then the tapes were sent to Los Angeles for review. The producers selected Childs along with 150 others to compete on “The Weakest Link” beating more than 25,000 people. Once flown to Los Angeles, Childs gave producers 30-second interview of why he should compete. “I mustered all of my excitement and anticipation, and exploded for the 30 seconds,” Lieutenant Childs

said. “I told them I’m training to be the best of the best as an Air Force pilot.” Lieutenant Childs made the final cut. The victory celebration was short lived as the show’s technicians put microphones on him and five other challengers. While walking out to the stage to start filming the competition, Lieutenant Childs could only think of one thing — “Don’t miss the first question.” A spotlight focused on Lieutenant Childs. George Gray, “The Weakest Link” host, greeted him. Lieutenant Childs nerves kicked in and he responded, “Hello Mr. Spanky Pants.” After the greeting stumble, Lieutenant Childs picked himself up and won the following rounds and advanced to the finals.



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett  
**Second Lt. Jason Childs, Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 04-05, goes over different T-38 maneuvers with Capt. Mike Ziemann, 50th Flying Training Squadron.**

In a best out of three competition, he competed against one last person for \$4,250 in prize money. He answered two questions correctly, but the challenger only got one right. Lieutenant Childs won the money. “Free trips are cool but even better if you win money,” he said.

## AT THE CHAPEL

**Chapel schedule**  
**Catholic**  
**Sunday activities:**  
9:15 a.m. — Mass  
10:30 a.m. — CCD  
5 p.m. — Confessions  
5:30 p.m. — Mass  
**Wednesday**  
11:30 a.m. — Mass

**Protestant**  
**Sunday activities:**  
9 a.m. — Sunday school  
10:45 a.m. — Traditional worship  
1 p.m. — Contemporary worship  
**Wednesdays**  
5:30 p.m. — Video Bible study supper  
7:15 p.m. — Choir rehearsal  
**Thursdays**  
11:30 a.m. — Lunch Bible study  
For Islamic, Jewish, Orthodox or other services, call the chapel at Ext. 2500.

## AT THE MOVIES

All movies are shown at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, at the base theater.  
**Today**  
“*Shanghai Knights*” (PG-13, action violence and sexual content, 114 min.)  
Starring Jackie Chan.

**Saturday**  
“*The Recruit*” (PG-13, violence, sexuality and language, 105 min.)  
Starring Laurence Fishburne.

**March 28**  
“*How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days*” (PG-13, sex related material, 118 min.)  
Starring Kate Hudson.

## CHANNEL 64

BLAZE 64 offers announcements for people living in base housing or the dormitories. Call 2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett for more information at Ext. 7065.

**Weekdays**  
**9 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.**  
Air Force Television News  
**Monday through March 28**  
**9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.**  
*College Level Examination Program Tapes:*  
English Composition

## FAMILY SUPPORT



*(Editor’s note: All activities are offered at the family support center unless otherwise specified. For more information, call Ext. 2790.)*

**Small businesses:** A small business development workshop is from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday. The workshop is for people interested in starting their own business.

**Transition workshop:** A transition assistance workshop is from Tuesday to Thursday. This is for people who are retiring or separating in the next year. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

**Access workshop:** The family support center offers a beginning Microsoft Access 2000 workshop from 9 to 10:30 a.m. March 26. Seating is limited, and people must register in advance.

**Deploy briefing:** Military people who are going remote or being deployed must attend a mandatory briefing held at 9 a.m. Thursdays. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Jamey Coleman.

**Health benefits:** A health benefits briefing is from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. Thursday. The briefing is for people who are retiring or separating.

**Teaching briefing:** An information workshop for people interested in learning to become a teacher is from 1 to 3 p.m. April 17 at the education center. The event gives information on how to become certified as a teacher. Representatives from Mississippi University for Women, Americorps and Mississippi Troops to Teachers are at the workshop. For more information, call the family support center or Luther Turner at Ext. 2565.

**Nursing moms:** The Air Force Aid Society offers an interest-free loan for up to \$200 for purchase or rental of a breast pump. The rank restriction provision no longer applies.



Airman Alexis Lloyd

## Framing away

**Shelley Vanderplas, 14th Services Division, makes a going away present in the frame shop. The frame shop can frame anything from personal pictures to pilots’ certificate and wings. For more information, call Ext. 7835.**

Applicants aren’t required to participate in a New Parents Support Program. For more information, call Shirley Pinkney.

## BASE NOTES



**Volunteers needed:** The Company Grade Officer Council needs volunteers May 2 and May 3 at the Market Street Festival in downtown Columbus. For more information or to volunteer, call 2nd Lt. Jennifer Moore at Ext. 7073.

**Playgroup:** The Mommy and Me playgroup is from 10 to 11 a.m. Mondays at the chapel. This is a weekly playgroup for ages 18 months to 3 years and their parents. There is no cost. Fathers are always welcome. For more information, call Birgit Coslett at 434-5876.

**Nutrition month:** March is National Nutrition Month. Look for displays at the commissary and library. There are also youth and child activities. For more information, call Ext. 2477.

**Childcare:** All parents returning from Operation Enduring Freedom are able to receive 16 hours of free childcare from the Extended Duty Child Care program. Children ages 12 years and under are eligible for care. The care must be used in the first 30 days of return from OEF deployment. People supporting other deployments more than 30 days may also receive this care. The person’s eligibility must be verified with the military personnel flight or their command section. For more information, call Ext. 2479.

**Spouse briefing:** A spouse aircraft briefing begins at 7 p.m. April 15 at the Phillips Auditorium. The briefing covers different lifestyles associated with different airframes and assignment locations. The briefings are given by spouses of 14th Operations Group’s instructor pilots. It is geared toward spouses of student pilots. For more information, call Patricia Speights at Ext. 7158.

**Thrift store:** The thrift store is now taking spring and summer items for consignment one hour before shop closes. The shop is open from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays. The next garage sale is from 8 to 11 p.m. April 5. This is open for sales only, no consignments. For more information, call 434-2954.



# Magnolia Inn competes for best in command



Pam Wickham

Natasha Henry, 14th Services Division, prepares a room for the next guest at the Magnolia Inn.

**Pam Wickham**  
Marketing director

The Magnolia Inn Lodging welcomed the Headquarters Air Education and Training Command Innkeeper Evaluation team to Columbus AFB Wednesday.

The inn is in the finals for Best AETC Lodging Operation, or the Inns of Excellence.

Columbus falls into the small base competitor category because the Magnolia Inn has 67 rooms.

The evaluation team judges the facility on customer care, housekeeping, customer service and general requirements for transient quarters.

The team also observes all aspects of the lodging operation and are tasked to conduct a fair, thorough evaluation and select the best lodging operation in AETC.

“Apart from having an outstanding

group of individuals, Magnolia Inn made monumental improvements to all operational areas which resulted in a \$100,000 financial turnaround from September 2001 to September 2002, facility improvements are too many to list and our training program makes us very competitive,” said Freddie King, Magnolia Inn lodging manager.

The lodging staff also provided a strong community spirit and dedicated many hours to support base beddown for families with homes destroyed and damage after the Nov. 10 tornado left people without food and shelter, Mr. King added.

Magnolia Inn is one of the best-kept secrets in the Air Force, said Capt. Joachim Exner, 14th Services Division deputy chief.

“We have a great facility and an awesome team who are well on their way to be the best in AETC and beyond,” Captain Exner said.

## Services offers leisure programs

**American Cafe open:** The Columbus Club’s American Cafe opens from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Fridays and is open to all ranks. Entrees include chicken Monterey, charbroiled New York strip steak, grilled pork chops Omaha and more. Club members receive a \$2 discount. Call Ext. 2489.

**All ranks bingo:** Games begin at 6 p.m. Fridays in the community center ballroom. People play five \$75 regular games, one \$125 odd and even cover-all game and a \$1,000 progressive jackpot game. Consolation prize is \$150 if the jackpot does not go in 58 numbers or less. Admission fees for non-members are \$5. Call Ext. 2489.

**Karaoke night:** It’s karaoke night from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. today in the enlisted lounge. Call Ext. 2489.

**Sunday brunch:** The Columbus Club offers an all-ranks brunch from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sunday. Cost is \$10.95 and club members receive a \$2 discount.

Brunch is offered the second and fourth Sundays of every month. Call Ext. 2489.

**Family bingo:** The youth center offers a family bingo night at 6 p.m. today. Parents and nonmembers pay \$1 to play. Members play free. Call Ext. 2504.

**Disney World trip:** The information, ticket and travel office offers a trip during spring break, March 30 to April 3 to Orlando, Fla. Cost is \$415 for one person, \$265 each for two people in the same room, \$215 each for three people and \$190 each for four people.

Cost includes four nights lodging, transportation and shuttle service in Orlando. Reduced price ticket packages are available at ITT and are dependent upon age and parks visiting. Call Ext. 7858.

**Spring break day camp:** Register now for this youth center program for children from kindergarten through sixth grades. The program is offered from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. March 31 through April 4. Fees are based on family income. Call Ext. 2504.

**Dinner theater:** A dinner theater is April 19 at the Columbus Club. The show is “Play It Again Sam.” The play is a comedy about the nerdy film critic’s obsession with Humphrey Bogart. Cost is \$25 for club members and \$30 for nonmembers.

Tickets go on sale April 1. Call Ext. 2489.

**Teen lock-in:** The youth center offers a teen lock-in from 9 p.m. to 7 a.m. April 5. Cost is \$10 per person and includes two meals, a snack, all games, movies and activities held throughout the night. Space is limited. Call Ext. 2504.

### Premier Vacation Club Promotion Ends March 31

*You could be one of the  
four AETC club members to  
win a \$3,500 vacation package*

Receive an entry form for  
every \$2 food purchase at the  
Columbus Club during lunch or  
receive 5 entries for every \$5  
food purchase at the American  
Cafe

Entries are also entered for the  
weekly \$100 drawing at the  
Columbus Club.

Our \$100 weekly winners  
are:

Week 1 - Don Strickland  
Week 2 - Hud Hudnall  
Week 3 - Lt. Col. Gerard Rowe  
Week 4 - Capt. Edward Segura  
Week 5 - Lt. Col. Jack Davidson  
Week 6 - Maj. Johnny Barnes  
Week 7 - It could be you

### Columbus Club Lunch Buffet

Served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

\$7.95 per person — Club

members receive \$2 discount

Cost includes vegetable,

tossed salad and beverage

Ala carte menu also available

Today

Fried catfish

Beef stir fry

Peach cobbler

Monday

Fried chicken

Salisbury steak

Peach cobbler

Tuesday

Lasagna

Spaghetti

Assorted Cakes

Wednesday

Meat loaf

Chicken pot pie

Apple cobbler

Thursday

Soup, salad

and potato bar

**Dinner theaters:** Streetcar Productions, Inc. in East Columbus’ Gateway Shopping Center has it’s first musical “Just South of Broadway” with shows today, March 28, March 29 and April 2, 4, 11, 12.

Dinner tickets are \$35 with catering by the Columbus Country Club.

Gallery seats are \$15 (no meal) and a Sunday dessert matinee, April 6, is \$20.

Ten percent military discounts are offered.

Advance reservations required. For more information, call 240-1832.

**Pilgrimage:** The Columbus Pilgrimage is April 1 to April 13 featuring 20 pre-civil war homes, churches and 19th century Southern gardens open for tours.

Highlights include palatial Snowdown, built in 1854, and The Haven, built by free African Americans in the 1850s.

Tales from the Crypt, a candlelight graveyard drama with costumed actors and haunting music, is also ongoing at old Friendship Cemetery on 4th Avenue South.

Horse-drawn carriages are available for downtown tours.

The Chattanooga Star Riverboat will ply the Tennessee-Tombigbee on daily cruises.

Pilgrimage tickets, discounted for military, are on sale now. For information, visit the Tennessee Williams Welcome Center on Main Street or call 329-3533.

**Celebrating cultures:** An International Fiesta staged

by foreign students at Mississippi State University starts at 10 a.m. April 4 on the MSU drill field, next to the student union. The event features foods from over 30 nations, music, dancing and native costumes. Free admission, everyone welcome.

**Seminars:** The “I Can Cope” four week educational series is from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. April 14, April 21, April 28 and May 5 at the Baptist-Golden Triangle Conference Center located in the Outpatient Pavillion.

The classes provide basic education on cancer, treatments, side effects, coping skills and community resources.

For more information, call Kim Criswell at 244-1760 or (800) 544-8767, Ext. 1760.



2nd Lt. Joseph Coslett

**Working out**  
Kirk Douglas, DynCorp, works out at the fitness and sports center. The fitness center offers many classes from kickboxing to yoga. For more information, stop by the center or call Ext. 2772.

SHORTS

No-tap bowling

All levels of bowlers are invited to enter this monthly no-tap tournament today. Sign up by 6:45 p.m., and the games begin at 7 p.m. Entry is \$10. Players must get a strike with a red-head pin to spin the wheel to win a prize.

For more information, call the bowling center at Ext. 2426.

Commit to be fit

The Commit To Be Fit program offered by the Mississippi University for Women gives

support to people wanting to lose weight or learn to eat healthy. The students help people accomplish their goal through a full year.

People can sign up at the fitness and sports center for the program.

For more information, call 1st Lt. Sharon Gregory at Ext. 2643.

Personal trainers

Personal trainers are available at the fitness and sports center to spice up a workout routine or help a person get more out of their workout. Call Ext. 2773.

Soccer standings

Team	Wins	Losses	The following are the intramural league standings as of Sunday.
Green	2	0	
Gray	2	0	
Red	1	2	
Gold	1	2	
Blue	0	2	

Bowling standings

The following are the intramural Thursday league standings as of March 13.	Team	Wins	Losses
	Misfits	140	60
	Strokin	124	76
	14th OSS	114	86
	SFS #1	90	110
	48th FTS	88	112
	SFS #2	32	168

Basketball standings

The following are the intramural league standings as of Thursday.

Team	Wins	Losses
48th FTS	17	6
14th OSS	16	6
50th FTS	16	8
14th COM	13	9
37th/41st FTS	12	11
14th MSS	12	12
DynCorp	12	12
14th MDG	7	17
14th SFS	0	24

BARGAIN LINE